

TWENTY-THIRD

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF ASTON MANOR

FOR 1895,

BY

HENRY MAY, L.R.C.P.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF ASTON MANOR

During the Year ending December 31st, 1895,

BY

HENRY MAY, L.R.C.P.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE DISTRICT, AND MEDICAL OFFICER TO THE
ASTON MANOR INFECTIOUS HOSPITAL,

Vice-President of the Birmingham and Midland Branch of the Incorporated Society of
Medical Officers of Health.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS OF THE ASTON MANOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present you with the following Report on Aston Manor for the year ending December 31st, 1895, being my Twenty-third Annual Report.

Although it might have been anticipated that the exceptionally small amount of sickness and mortality in this district last year would be followed by a corresponding excess, I am glad to say this has not been the case, but that the public health this year has been on the whole quite up to the average.

Extremes of weather have been the chief disturbing causes in each of these two years, but they have acted in opposite directions. The ungenial summer of 1894 had a beneficial influence on health, and was attended with a great reduction in the usual mortality from diarrhoea, but the sub-tropical weather in the autumn of 1895 occasioned an increased mortality from that disease, and the arctic weather in the winter also told severely on health and life.

Epidemic influences have told in both directions this year. I am pleased to report the complete abatement of the small-pox epidemic of 1893-5, and that it has now quite disappeared from this neighbourhood. The district was nearly free from measles from June, 1894, to September, 1895, but it then appeared and spread rapidly, although several infant schools were temporarily closed to delay its progress.

The comparative freedom from scarlet fever which Aston Manor enjoyed all last year continued through the first half of the present one, but it became prevalent in July, and a considerable amount of your attention was given to the provision of sufficient means of isolation. Diphtheria has for the first time become a serious factor in the mortality. Influenza has not been absent in epidemic form, but has not had such dangerous consequences as in recent years. Phthisis continues to increase, corresponding with the larger proportion of young adults in the present population.

The following table shows the birth and death rates of Aston Manor for the twenty-four years for which you have had returns from the Registrar.

	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Infantile Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.
Average of decade, 1872-81...	42'1	18'4	14'6	4'0
" " 1882-91...	34'1	16'1	14'5	2'7
Year 1892	32'5	16'4	15'2	2'6
" 1893	33'5	16'7	18'7	3'6
" 1894	31'0	14'0	13'6	2'1
" 1895	33'1	16'5	19'1	3'1

The first period of ten years corresponds with the time of high birth-rates, and it was 18·4 per thousand. The second period of ten years was a time of a continually falling birth-rate, and the death-rate fell to 16·1. The last four years have been a period of a nearly stationary low birth-rate, and the average has been 15·9 per thousand.

Although the death-rate is 2·5 higher this year than last, it is very nearly the normal rate of the district, and the special circumstances which caused the exceptionally low mortality in Aston Manor last year, appear to have prevailed generally throughout the country, as a similarly low death-rate was recorded for England and Wales for 1894, viz., 16·6, which is 2·3 less than the average death-rate of the last ten years.

The very severe and long frost of January and February had very injurious effects upon the health of the poorer classes, but local charity did a great deal to minimise the distress, and I question if it occasioned more loss of life than the autumnal heat. With this exception, the continued and abundant employment among the many and widely various occupations and trades in which this industrial population is engaged has been an important element in maintaining the healthy condition of Aston Manor. New houses are still being abundantly provided, and yet they have been overtaken, and there are less void houses than at this time last year. The growth of the district in houses and population still continues, and the increase in the occupied houses is 307, and in the estimated population 1,505.

Population.—The following are the figures of the last five Censuses as applied to Aston Manor:—

Year.	Total Houses.	Houses Void.	Houses Building.	Inhabited Houses.	No. of Persons per inhabited House	Population.
1851 ...	1,437	105	23	1,309	4·9	6,426
1861 ...	3,562	173	45	3,344	4·9	16,337
1871 ...	7,662	651	83	6,928	4·9	33,948
1881 ...	11,830	1,158	98	10,583	5·1	53,842
1891 ...	14,689	653	147	13,889	4·9	68,639

The following are the figures of the enumerations of the houses by the Aston School Board with which I have been supplied, and the population as calculated from them:—

Year.	Total Houses.	Houses Void.	Houses Building.	Inhabited Houses.	Persons per House	Estimated Population.
1890 ...	14,703	633	124	13,946	4·9	68,336
1891 ...	14,956	474	51	14,431	„	70,712
1892 ...	15,353	527	44	14,782	„	72,432
1893 ...	15,638	749	12	14,877	„	72,897
1894 ...	15,882	792	37	15,053	„	73,759
1895 ...	16,100	717	23	15,360	„	75,264

The number of persons now entitled to vote in the Parliamentary Borough of Aston Manor is 11,229, as compared with 11,022 last year. There was a re-valuation of the whole district last year, and the total rateable value according to the re-assessment of the Poor Rate for 1895-6, was £212,749, and for the District Rate for the same year, £168,880.

Reports.—Copies of my Annual Report were sent to the Local Government Board and Warwickshire County Council, as well as copies of special reports on outbreaks of scarlet fever and measles, and the usual weekly returns of notified cases of infectious disease. I have received from them tabulated

weekly returns of all cases reported to them, showing the prevalence of infectious disease in the county and throughout the country, and I have also received a copy of the annual summary of the reports of the Medical Officers of Health of the County, by Dr. Bostock Hill, made by him to the County Council.

You have again appointed my son, F. H. May, Diplomat in Public Health, to act as Deputy Medical Officer of Health, during a portion of last winter, when I was absent with leave on account of my health; and also during a summer holiday. His proceedings during those periods are included with mine in this report.

THE PREVENTION OF DISEASE.

This district does not possess much independence in regard to the nature and extent of its infectious disease, for it is continuous on the south and east for two miles with densely populated parts of the city of Birmingham, and on the west and north with populous portions of the Handsworth and Erdington Urban Districts; but this rather increases than otherwise its responsibility in preventing the spread of disease, and in limiting and delaying epidemics which it cannot avert, in order to worthily assist and uphold the contiguous districts in their sanitary efforts. The most important of these are notification, disinfection, and isolation, and these have been diligently attended to.

Notification.—The system of notification which has been very generally applied in this country, by means of the adoption of the Infectious Disease Notification Act of 1889, and adopted here on July 1st, 1890, increases every year in usefulness. I speak from an intimate experience of its mode of operation in saying that in securing by it the help of the medical practitioner in dealing with infectious disease it has met a strongly felt want and supplied an indispensable missing link.

There is one disease to which it is a pity that notification was applied, viz., erysipelas. I beg to quote the following words regarding it from Dr. A. Hill's Report on the Health of Birmingham for 1894, which I fully endorse:—"It is difficult to see what substantial advantage the notification of this disease affords to sanitary authorities in return for the large expenditure of money and labour which it involves, and your (Health) Committee might well consider the advisability of removing it from among the notifiable diseases."

Although it is the duty of the head of the house, as well as the medical attendant, to give notice to the Medical Officer of Health of infectious cases, this dual system has not been enforced in this district. It is none the less a statutory duty; and it is of very great importance it should be known and recognised that infectious cases must be reported to the medical officer, although no medical aid is called in. I am sorry to say that when such cases are discovered, ignorance of the nature of the case is generally pleaded; and that sometimes a doctor is not called, or only after the patient is in danger, in order to conceal cases. In one instance, the omission to give notice of a series of small pox cases was so flagrant that you instituted a prosecution successfully against the householder; and it is well to occasionally undertake such prosecutions to illustrate this duty.

The following is a table of the monthly notifications received this year, and the totals of this and the previous two years; it serves to show at a glance the rise and fall of the chief infectious diseases in Aston Manor during 1895.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER DURING EACH MONTH OF 1895,
AND THE TOTALS DURING 1893-4 AND 5.

1895.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total, 1895.	Total, 1894.	Total, 1893.	Total, 1892.
Smallpox ...	13	13	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	34	202	126	—
Cholera ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	8	5	4	4	3	6	4	4	6	6	7	52	109	44	47	44
Membranous Croup	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	6	14	5	1
Erysipelas ...	13	10	10	9	2	5	3	9	9	5	10	13	98	80	83	83
Scarlet Fever ..	5	1	12	6	6	12	33	53	50	69	88	78	413	136	214	406
Typhus Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ..	1	—	2	—	2	2	8	5	5	—	8	8	41	35	121	57
Relapsing Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Simple Continued Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	6	12	6
TOTAL ...	40	29	32	22	15	28	49	72	70	80	116	152	705	516	614	598

Each of these cases, and some others where infectious disease was suspected, has been the subject of careful investigation. The Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. Bolt, or his assistant, Mr. Protheroe, has furnished the Medical Officer with 641 preliminary reports during the year, which have formed the basis for and contain a record of the extended enquiries, continued observation, and consequent action taken in each case; also for grouping them as to their causes and local distribution, and as to the general measures appropriate to the circumstances of the outbreak.

The Medical Officer of Health has had daily conferences with the Inspector, and has visited the spot when desirable; he has also seen a considerable number of the cases, always in concert with the medical attendants, to assist in the diagnosis and isolation or otherwise; and has also frequently communicated with them as to the time for and extent of disinfection desirable, and received other assistance which has contributed to prevent friction in the work of this department.

The following is a summary of this work, both for this and last year; further details will be given when I report separately on the diseases which have had attention.

Year	Notices sent to Head Teachers of Infectious Diseases among School Children.	Houses fumigated with sulphur after Infectious Disease.	Lots of Bedding and Clothing disinfected at the apparatus.	Premises stripped and cleansed after infection on Medical Certificate.	Cases sent to Isolation Hospital.
1894	330	354	332	261	208
1895	602	388	352	297	227

Disinfection.—The systematic disinfection of all infected bedding and clothing at the apparatus, free of charge, has been continued as in previous years; and it will be seen from the following figures supplied me by the Superintendent of the Night Soil Department, who is responsible for the work of disinfection, what an important and growing business this has become, especially as you also undertake disinfection for several neighbouring sanitary authorities

Districts.	1894.		1895.	
	Lots.	Articles	Lots.	Articles.
Handsworth ...	141	2,631	134	2,156
Aston Rural ..	15	429	33	898
Sutton Coldfield ...	9	262	9	329
Aston Manor ...	329	5,978	352	4,887
Private ...	3	17	4	53
Total ..	497	9,317	532	8,323

It has been necessary to purchase a new disinfection van during the year to replace one of the old ones. The present apparatus has now been in use since the beginning of 1882, and though I said then in describing it that “the means you possess for disinfection are as perfect as they well can be,” during the sixteen years which have since elapsed it has become obsolete, and I again recommend a new one, employing steam instead of gas, which is of superior penetrating power, cheaper, and quicker in its action.

The cleansing and stripping of the infected portions of 297 premises has been carried out in accordance with medical certificates, on the authority of the

Clerk, Mr Ansell, under section 5 of the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, without resort to legal proceedings; the intimation required from the owner or occupier having been almost invariably promptly returned, and this has been facilitated by supplying him with a printed form for the purpose. Copies have also been given to the occupiers of all houses in which infectious disease has been notified of sections 7 and 13 of the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act.

Isolation.—The advantages resulting from isolating cases of infectious disease at the hospital are becoming better recognised every year. Twenty nine cases of small-pox out of the 35 notified, and 197 cases of scarlet fever out of the 413 notified were isolated at the infectious hospital during the year. Among other advantages from taking this course with children suffering from scarlet fever, I may mention that when the first case in a house is removed at once, it has rarely been followed by any farther extension of the disease in the household—when not removed it has generally extended through the house; it has also enabled the other members of the family to resume work or to continue their business, and the other children to return to school, instead of remaining at home during the period of convalescence. The patient also, instead of having to be isolated six or seven weeks in one room, has companions and recreation at the hospital, to say nothing of nursing and baths.

When children have been nursed at home, the duty of withholding the other children from school has been enforced, and isolation in the home supervised by occasional visits.

In typhoid fever and diphtheria, treatment is relatively of much greater importance than isolation, and the resources and medical and surgical skill and nursing at the general hospitals in the city have generally been available for these cases; but I am sorry to say that two of the hospitals declined to admit cases of diphtheria, except for operation, in the latter part of the year. The question of the isolation of diphtheria is surrounded with far more difficulties than scarlet fever, and is a very difficult problem to solve, and I trust that with increased accommodation the new General Hospital will resume admitting cases.

My attention was called to the custom said to be adopted by the Aston School Board of allowing children to be sent from school to look up absentees living near, and Mr. Pratt, Clerk to the School Board, informed me that head teachers used their discretion in sending children after school hours to do so, but that they did not enter the house, and that such employment of children was the custom in other School Boards, but that the School Board, after consideration, had now forbidden the practice when there was any suspicion of the absence being occasioned by illness. I reported to the Health Committee to this effect, and it was considered satisfactory.

Small-pox—The visitation of small-pox to which Aston Manor was subject during 1893 and 1894, in common with other places in the neighbourhood, came to a termination in April of the present year. It began in February, 1893, became severe in November in that year, and continued so until the following April, when it abated. There was a recrudescence in November, 1894, and local outbreaks continued during the next four months, and two abnormal cases occurred in May and July. Since then this district and the neighbourhood have been quite free from it.

This is the third local epidemic outbreak since I have been Medical Officer of Health. The first was in 1874-5, the second in 1883-4, the last in 1893-4-5. There was no other means of isolation than was provided by the Board of Guardians during the first; a tent hospital was improvised by the Local Board during the second; and there was fairly adequate accommodation provided for

it during the third, and I do not believe any case was refused. I made a forecast in 1885—that I looked for eight or ten years' comparative immunity, and hoped that with a better provision of means of isolation, the next visitation would prove still milder; I venture to forecast a similar immunity for seven or eight years, but not a milder visitation, for in the meantime the cause of our comparative freedom from this terrible scourge of humanity—efficient vaccination in infancy—is becoming unpopular and neglected. It will be wisdom for you to make adequate and timely provision of means of isolation, and adopt it strictly in the next outbreak.

There were 244 reported cases and 19 deaths in Aston Manor in the 1883-4 visitation; there have been 362 reported cases and 23 deaths during the present one, 35 cases and 4 deaths occurring during the present year. One case was not notified; another case was a resident in Handsworth, who visited at least two medical men's houses in this district, from one of which he was removed to the hospital, and the Handsworth Urban Authority undertook the cost of his maintenance. In one of the latest outbreaks here, there was such an obvious desire shown to conceal a whole series of cases, which occurred in a house where lodgers were taken and a milk and confectionery business carried on, that you considered it advisable to authorise a prosecution against the householder. The prosecution was conducted by the Clerk, Mr. Ansell, the Deputy Medical Officer appeared as a witness, and a fine was inflicted of £1, with costs, by the magistrates. One of the lodgers developed small pox at Brighton some days after leaving the house, and an intimation to that effect from the Medical Officer of Health there helped to throw light upon this series of cases.

I described fully in my last year's report the means which were employed to prevent the spread of the disease. The same means were diligently employed this year; 29 of the cases were isolated in the infectious hospital.

I gave statistics last year as to the age, mortality, and vaccination of 327 cases which had then occurred. I now add to them statistics concerning the 35 cases this year.

Ages.	Number of cases vaccinated.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of mortality.	Number of cases unvaccinated.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of mortality.	Number of cases stated to have been vaccinated but no signs.	Number of deaths.	Percentage of mortality
Under 1 year	...	...	...	4	3	75	...	...	...
Between 1 and 5 years...	1	...	...	7	1	14	...	...	...
" 5 " 15 " ...	33	...	...	11	3	27	1	...	...
" 15 " 25 " ...	119	2	2	11	2	18	...	...	...
" 25 " 45 " ...	140	4	3	7	4	57	1	1	100
45 years and upwards ...	25	1	4	1	1	100	1	1	100
TOTAL	318	7	2.2	41	14	34	3	2	66.6

The death-rate of the vaccinated cases was 2 per cent., and of the others over 30 per cent.

Scarlet Fever.—Aston Manor was comparatively free from this disease during 1894 and the first half of 1895; only 179 cases were notified during these eighteen months, and seven deaths took place. It was prevalent in Birmingham from the beginning of this year, and I believe the great attention given to this disease in Aston Manor delayed its approach in epidemic form for a long time. The number of fresh cases continued to increase through the latter half of the year, amounting to 371 in the six months.

The following table shows the number of cases of scarlet fever during the five complete years in which notification has been in force; also the action taken in regard to them:—

Year	No. of cases of Scarlet Fever reported.	No. of infected houses.	No. of Deaths registered.	No. of houses stripped and disinfected on Medical Certificate	No. of lots of clothing and bedding disinfected at apparatus.	No. of cases isolated in Hospital.	Percentage of cases isolated.
1891	337	218	23 [*]	236	242	124	37
1892	406	203	13 [*]	288	295	92	22
1893	214	176	6 [*]	183	177	82	36
1894	136	93	5 [*]	81	93	38	28
1895	413	286	13 [*]	241	255	198	48

* Includes deaths in Hospital.

The proportion willing to be isolated in the hospital is considerably larger than in previous years, although there has been no alteration in the terms and conditions of admission, a matter to which I have made reference in previous reports.

It will be easily seen from the ages at which these cases occurred, how largely this is a disease of childhood and school age, and it is apparent how little adults are susceptible to it, so that if childhood and youth are protected the individual will probably escape altogether.

Ages.	Cases.			Deaths		
	1893	1894	1895	1893	1894	1895
Under 5 years	58	32	123	2	3	8
From 5 to 10 years	68	57	172	2	2	5
From 10 to 15 years	54	29	84	2	—	—
From 15 to 20 years	20	8	21	—	—	—
At 20 and upwards	14	10	13	—	—	—
	214	136	413	6	5	13

Measles.—Aston Manor was almost entirely free from this very common and fatal disease of children from the middle of 1894 until September in the present year. In the third week of that month a number of cases were reported, and as these were nearly all in the neighbourhood of and connected with the Vicarage Road Infants' School of the Aston School Board, I recommended the closing of that department forthwith, in hopes of preventing its extension in that school, and possibly throughout the district.

My recommendation was adopted by the School Board, and the department was closed for three weeks ; after re-opening it seemed as though for a time the general extension of the disease was prevented, but it proved to be so only as far as that school was concerned, for measles was prevalent on both the Birmingham and Handsworth side, and the district was invaded in all directions. The schools affected were chiefly the infant departments of the Lozells Street, Burlington Street, and Upper Thomas Street Board Schools, and, in accordance with my recommendations, those departments were closed in the middle of November for three weeks, which was afterwards extended to the Christmas holidays, and the Anglesey Street Mixed School was also closed for the same reasons at the beginning of December.

The following figures show the number of fresh cases reported and the number of deaths during September, October, November, and December, 1895.

Week ending.					Cases of Measles reported by the School Officers.	Deaths registered from Measles.
1895.						
September	11	...	...	...	0	—
"	18	...	...	...	12	—
"	25	...	...	...	8	—
October	2	...	...	...	6	—
"	9	...	...	...	1	—
"	16	...	...	...	3	—
"	23	...	...	...	26	—
"	30	...	...	...	13	—
November	6	...	...	...	45	—
"	13	...	...	...	110	2
"	20	...	...	...	95	4
"	27	...	...	...	55	2
December	4	...	...	...	53	—
"	11	...	...	...	17	2
"	18	...	...	...	—	4
"	25	...	...	...	—	4

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—One of the most unsatisfactory incidents of the present year is the increase in the mortality from these diseases. I have included them together, as there cannot be a definite line drawn between them, and the terms are interchangeable with some medical men. The combined deaths registered in the district (without reference to those admitted to the City Hospitals) were 2, 5, and 10 during the previous three years, but they have risen to 32 during the present year, coinciding with a similar great increase in Birmingham, London, and other places.

It would be premature as yet to consider diphtheria as likely to take a place among the principal causes of mortality here, as I think this change for the worse is temporary. Its source has been variously assigned to sewers and soil, but its infectious nature from person to person within a limited area among susceptible individuals, and especially children, is well recognised. The amount of mortality has increased in a much greater proportion than the number of cases. There have been 109 cases notified as diphtheria, and 6 as membranous croup, as compared with 44 and 14 last year. Careful disinfection of the infected clothing and premises has been made, excepting where the medical attendant stated it was not necessary.

One outbreak appeared to be connected with an infant department of a public elementary school, as two cases were notified me in April who were scholars, and I ascertained that two or three cases notified in Handsworth and Birmingham were scholars; three weeks later three infants attending the school, from a home in the district, were also notified. I visited the school and the home, and advised with the officials, and also communicated with the Chairman of the Managers, recommending a temporary closure of the department, but he did not consider this necessary. I subsequently reported to the Health Committee, not recommending the compulsory closing of the school, but stating that the children from the home would be withheld, and I am glad to say no further cases were reported.

There was also a severe and fatal outbreak of diphtheria in December in connection with the Station Road Mixed School of the Aston School Board. The first intimation was four notifications on the evening of December 9th, which, on investigation, proved to be diphtheria in four different houses of children attending this school, and that two were dead. I also received a letter from the Clerk to the Aston School Board, Mr. Pratt, enclosing one to him from the head mistress concerning the outbreak, requesting me to advise in the matter. I recommended the closing of the school forthwith, and it was closed by the Aston School Board at midday of the 11th.

This school had a good record, no case of diphtheria had been recorded in connection with it, nor in the neighbourhood, this year. The first case notified was taken ill on the 4th inst., and in the two weeks following 21 children attending the school were taken ill and 11 of them died. A total of 42 cases have been notified already connected with the school, and 14 deaths have been registered. There can be no question that this outbreak was caused by one or more unrecognized cases of diphtheria in an infectious condition attending the school.

I have ascertained from the Medical Officer of Health for Erdington that six or seven cases of diphtheria connected with the school had been notified in that district, and a death of a pupil teacher registered; also from the Medical Officer of Health for Handsworth that no cases have been notified there—this is explained by the fact that the Handsworth children, about 100 in number, were discharged in November, being the end of the school year.

The neighbourhood lies low, the soil is in parts a layer of peat over the gravel, and the land near has been raised by tipping rubbish; the sewerage arrangements were also unsatisfactory until the street and sewers were re-made at the beginning of last year.

The School Board had previously adopted the following recommendation to head teachers:—

DIPHTHERIA.—Cases of sore throat should be referred to a Medical Man, as they are often mild cases of *diphtheria*, which is generally spread from person to person, and is a very dangerous, infectious disease; and have decided to send a further circular as to their responsibilities, and to cleanse the school buildings. The outbreak had apparently ended at the close of the year.

Typhoid Fever.—One satisfactory feature of the present year, as of the previous one, is the small extent to which this disease has been prevalent. The number of fresh cases has been 41, and 6 deaths, as compared with 35 cases and 6 deaths in 1894. A number of them have been notified me from the General Hospital, Birmingham, where they have been admitted for treatment. The cases this year were probably imported, and the usual course has been adopted with regard to disinfection.

Diarrhœa and Cholera.—The district has shared fully with the rest of the country in its freedom from choleraic disease, but the annual massacre of the infants by summer diarrhœa has been a very great one. The following statement supplies the numbers of cases, ages, and deaths during this and the three previous years :—

1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	
69	144	29	113	Infants under one year.
22	28	2	16	Between one and five years.
1	8	—	4	Between five and sixty-five years.
3	8	1	4	Above sixty-five
—	—	—	—	
95	181	32	137	
—	—	—	—	

The amount of mortality in 1892 was about the average, 1894 was a cold summer, 1893 and 1895 were hot summers. In 1895 there were more deaths in October (42) than in any other month; this loss was probably inflicted by the excessive heat of September.

Influenza.—I cannot say that this district has been free from this disease, as it was reported to you as epidemic in March, and 16 deaths were recorded from it, but I do not think it has been so much in evidence as during the previous four years.

INFECTIOUS HOSPITAL.

The District Council has delegated the conduct of the arrangements for isolation to the Health Committee, which has appointed a Hospital Management Sub-committee. The Medical Officer attends the meetings of these committees, and, although there has been no change of policy, the matter of accommodation has had much consideration and several special meetings have been held.

The following is a table of the cases admitted to the hospital since it was opened :—

Year.	Aston Manor	Erdington.	Castle Bromwich.	Sutton.	Saltley.	Birmingham.	Work-house.	Other.	Total.
1885	9	1		—	—	—	—	—	10
1886	14	1		—	—	—	—	—	15
1887	22	—		6	—	—	—	—	28
1888	17	7		23	—	—	17	2	66
1889	76	7		8	16	23	20	2	152
1890	160	44		8	9	20	24	1	266
1891	124	13		65	17	—	3	2	224
1892	92	8		7	—	—	11	2	120
1893	194	20		3	—	—	1	2	220
1894	208	31		7	—	—	4	3	253
1895	227	52	11	25	—	—	10	2	327

No cases have been received from the Saltley Urban District, although you have an agreement to do so, since it has been included in the City of

Birmingham. In October you were requested to receive cases under that agreement, and accepted your responsibility in the matter, but no cases have been sent.

During the last two years there have really been two hospitals on adjacent sites, for small-pox and scarlet fever respectively, but the former was only required for that purpose during the first few months of the year.

Scarlet Fever Hospital.—When the hospital accommodation for this disease was increased in 1891 to 34 adults, with 2,000 cubic feet for each, I said if scarlet fever continued to prevail, and the popularity of the hospital to increase, the provision of another pavilion would require your consideration. After July in this year, the number of cases in Aston Manor rapidly increased, and the percentage of those seeking hospital isolation was double that of any previous year; the disease also became prevalent in those outside districts from which you have agreed to receive cases. Although a large proportion of the inmates were children under ten, and in the convalescent stage, for whom I consider 1,000 cubic feet for each to be sufficient both theoretically and practically, the hospital became full, and to have continued to admit cases would have occasioned dangerous overcrowding. Having reported these circumstances to the Health Committee in September, they resolved to recommend further accommodation, and the District Council at its meeting on October 1st approved a recommendation to erect another pavilion on the same lines as the one erected in 1891, with accommodation for nurses, for 12 adult cases with 2,000 cubic feet for each, with double wooden walls and felt and shavings between, and brick foundations and slate roof. It was erected on the plans of the Surveyor, Mr. H. Richardson, by Mr. Trentham, builder, at a cost of £870, and was formally opened on October 16th.

At the November meeting of the Committee I reported that the increased accommodation was overtaken, as the admissions continued to increase, not only from Aston Manor but also from the wide area from which you admit cases. The difficulties attached to building another pavilion were insuperable, and I recommended, with reluctance, that the adjacent pavilion, originally built for small-pox cases, should be used for convalescent scarlet fever children, as a lesser evil than to refuse admission. This was approved by the Council at the beginning of December on the recommendation of the Health Committee, and the pavilion having been disinfected, re-varnished, and re-furnished was brought into use, to the great advantage of the hospital.

As usual in infectious hospitals, there were sometimes complex conditions to deal with, such as outbreaks of measles or chicken-pox, introduced with scarlet fever, but they were reduced to a minimum by isolating the cases. They serve to show the necessity for an abundance of accommodation in order to deal satisfactorily with scarlet fever in hospitals, even though the majority of the cases are young children.

The number of so called return cases, that is to say, fresh cases in the household after the return of a patient who has been discharged from the hospital have been comparatively very few, but this has necessitated a long detention and a careful disinfection of clothing, when any has been taken home. There has been a slight restriction on the visiting arrangements, made with the sanction of the Hospital Sub-committee. Only three cases have been sent in where the diagnosis appeared to the Medical Officer to be erroneous.

The following is a statement of the admissions, deaths, and discharges during the year 1895 : —

Remaining at the end of 1894	...	...	8	
Admitted during 1895	..	...	294	
				302
Discharged during 1895	...	...	218	
Died during 1895	...	...	5	
Remaining at the end of 1895	..	...	84	
				302

Of the cases remaining at the end of year, 55 were from Aston Manor, and 29 were from other places.

Three of the deaths in the hospital were among Aston Manor cases, and two were from the Erdington district. The total scarlet fever mortality for the year in the hospital was equal to 1·6 per cent. of the cases admitted.

Small-pox Hospital.—The following is a statement concerning the 33 cases of small-pox admitted during the present year, viz. :— 29 from Aston Manor, two from Sutton, one from Erdington, and one from Handsworth.

Remaining at the end of 1894	...	...	11	
Admitted during 1895	...	...	33	
				44
Died during 1895	...	...	3	
Discharged during 1895	...	...	41	
				44

Eight of the cases admitted during the year were unvaccinated, and the three deaths occurred among these.

There were 290 cases admitted to the hospital during 1893-4, and the addition of the above 33 makes a total of 323 cases isolated there in connection with the recent epidemic. As all these cases came under the care of the Medical Officer, he is enabled to give particulars from his own observation as to the amount of vaccination, viz. :—

	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Mortality.
Vaccinated with 1 mark	28	1	4 per cent.
„ 2 „	53	3	6 „
„ 3 „	112	1	1 „
„ 4 „	52	2	4 „
„ 5 „	35	—	— „
Stated to have been vaccinated, but no mark	2	1	50 „
Unvaccinated	41	13	30 „
	323	21	6 „

In one of these vaccination, and in several re-vaccination, was concurrent with small-pox, and there was one on whom re-vaccination had been performed 28 years before.

You have had the serious question under consideration of transferring the small-pox hospital to another site, in order to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Board, and avoid the dangers arising from the aerial convection of the disease, and a memorandum from that Board formulating its views was considered, to the effect that the site of such a hospital must not be less than a quarter of a mile from a fever hospital, nor less than half a mile as a centre from a population of 5-600 inhabitants.

The Local Government Board has also refused your application for its sanction to any loan for the new pavilion for scarlet fever, on the ground that a hospital in which cases of small-pox are treated exists within a quarter of a mile of the present hospital, thus violating the requirements of the Board with reference to such hospitals. The Health Committee, in these circumstances, has resolved that it is desirable that in future all small-pox patients should be treated in a separate area, at such a distance from the fever hospital as is required by the Local Government Board, and that negotiations be entered into by the Clerk for a suitable site, who was authorised to enter into a provisional contract for its purchase.

Mr. Black, the resident Superintendent, has contributed very much to the satisfactory working of the hospital through these difficult times by his efficient services, and his attention to your interests, and his kindly interest in the welfare of the patients, deserve my warm praise.

I have been assisted in my duties by the Deputy Medical Officer, F. H. May, and he was in sole professional charge during my absences.

SANITARY WORK AND SUPERVISION.

The supervision and control of the sanitary work of the district has been delegated to the Health Committee, whose monthly and special meetings are attended by the Medical Officer of Health, and to which he reports his proceedings. They are also attended by the Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. Bolt, who reports his proceedings also.

I have much pleasure in acknowledging again in my annual report my sense of the great ability and devotion to the work of his department which Mr. Bolt has continued to show during this year and the eighteen years I have been officially connected with him in the sanitary work of this district.

House Inspection.—It is of primary importance to keep the 16,000 dwelling houses of the district in a fairly sanitary condition, considering that two-thirds are let at weekly rents, and a large proportion are back and back-to-back houses. A larger number than usual have been dealt with this year, in consequence of having infectious disease in them, and 297 have been cleansed in consequence. The annual house-to-house inspection of a portion of the district, consisting of two long streets, has been undertaken this year, and the following is a summary of the Inspector's report as to the number and condition of the houses visited, and the results of the inspection:—

No. of Houses Visited.		Class of Houses.	No. of Houses supplied with Water from Tap.	Ashpits.	No. of Privies.	No. of Middens.	No. of Water Closets.	Nuisances Discovered and Abated.								
								Drains requiring Disconnection.	Middens requiring Reconstruction.	Defective Drains.	Filthy Premises.	Filthy Privies.	Dilapidated and Defective Buildings.	Overcrowded.	Others.	Total.
534	357	177	534	105	259	229	236	6	43	68	45	14	74	2	6	258

Also 44 factories and workshops, with 25 W.C.'s, 2 middens, 10 privies, and 2 pan closets.

Including the notices under the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 2,039 preliminary notices have been sent by the Inspector during the year in connection with 5,398 dwelling-houses, workshops, and bakehouses, as compared with 2,188 during the previous year, and about the same number of nuisances have been temporarily or permanently abated. The particulars concerning these, including seven notices for overcrowding, are stated in the summary of the Inspector's report included with this. I have visited with him all those in which my intervention was required, and advised or been prepared to advise with regard to them.

Some of the older properties in the district, consisting of terraces of small houses, are gradually becoming unfit for habitation, through want of repair and minor defects, and it will be my duty to make representations to you that they are unfit for habitation, under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, unless they are improved.

Workshops and Bakehouses.—These have been systematically inspected since the Factories and Workshops Act of 1891 came into force, when Mr. Bolt was appointed by you to inspect them; I visited several with him in which my intervention appeared desirable. A register of the workshops was instituted in 1892, with particulars as to cubic space, number employed, &c., and all fresh workshops are added to it from time to time, also dates of inspections. There are 327 upon the register, and 94 retail bakehouses, all of these have had at least one visit during the year.

Slaughter-houses and Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—The registers of these have been maintained. There are 36 private slaughter-houses on the register, and 10 Cowkeepers and 376 Milk Purveyors. The Inspector reports 671 visits to slaughter-houses, and two or more visits to each of the milkshops, but my intervention has not been required in regard to any.

Smoke.—The purity of the atmosphere in the manufacturing parts of the district has been attended to by systematic observations on factory chimneys, the results of which are reported monthly by the Inspector to the Health Committee. In 134 observations he found 7 instances of black smoke issuing over twelve minutes in the hour. Although you have authorised no prosecution during the year, you have caused representations to be made in several instances, with satisfactory results.

Offensive Trades.—Only one establishment of this nature has required my attention, viz, an india-rubber manufactory, concerning which I had complaints of a sickening odour being given off at times. I visited the neighbourhood and inspected the works on several occasions, accompanied by the Inspector, and conferred with the manager. I failed to discover sufficient cause to recommend any action to be taken, and reported to the Health Committee to that effect, and am pleased to say that the complaints have been less.

SANITARY STATE OF THE DISTRICT.

There has been a number of matters affecting the sanitary welfare of the district, in which the Medical Officer has taken no direct part, and yet in which he is indirectly interested, or which come under his observation. As he is required to include in his annual report "an account of the sanitary state of his district generally at the close of the year," this heading affords a suitable

opportunity for him to refer to these matters, as well as to others in which he is directly interested, such as the construction of new houses, the existing arrangements for night soil and house refuse disposal, the state of the sewers and streams, and the character of the food and water supply of the district, &c.

Surveyor.—During the present year your Surveyor, Mr. W. A. Davies, resigned his appointment, having been appointed Surveyor to the Urban Sanitary District of Hounslow and Isleworth, near London. I have worked with him very satisfactorily as a colleague for the last eleven years, and have always received his cordial assistance. He was presented by the Chairman of the Council, W. Evans, Esq., J. P., on behalf of members and friends, with a testimonial at his departure. The gentleman whom you have appointed as his successor, Mr. H. Richardson, was Surveyor of the Urban Sanitary District of Oldbury. He is already familiar with this district, having been Assistant Surveyor here some years ago, and since his appointment to the office in June I have had his courteous assistance.

I have continued to have the same opportunities, as in former years, of inspecting the plans submitted to the Surveyor for approval, and of making suggestions for the improvement of their sanitary arrangements. I have received from him the following information as to the number of houses and other buildings for which plans have been submitted, and which have been completed and approved. Although they show a tendency to decline in the annual number of new houses completed, there is a recovery in the number intended to be erected.

Year.	New Houses for which plans have been approved.	Other Buildings.	New Houses completed and inspected.	Other Buildings.
1889	481	113	512	109
1890	527	101	472	110
1891	460	63	370	64
1892	344	87	452	75
1893	396	45	322	45
1894	169	97	176	62
1895	357	92	213	61

Night Soil and House Refuse Disposal.—Nearly all new houses for the last seven or eight years have been erected with closets on the water carriage system, and the Surveyor reports that 262 new W.C.'s have been erected in connection with new houses and buildings this year. The Inspector reports that 164 new W.C.'s have been built in substitution for old privies, and the accompanying middens altered into dry ashpits.

The report of Mr. Treadaway, the Superintendent of the Night Soil Department, is given at the end of this report, and shows a progressive amount of refuse removed by day, and a diminishing amount removed by night, corresponding with the gradual substitution of W.C.'s for the old fixed receptacles for night soil, ashes, and other refuse. The eight-celled destructor has been in constant use, and has consumed 12,760 tons of the refuse.

The amount of the year's precept levied on this district by the Drainage Board (based upon the comparative number of rated tenements) for the cost of treating the sewage of the district at the outlet is £3,403. It would be the same if the whole of the night soil of the district were removed by water carriage, and the middens abolished, and then a great part of the £3,050, which is the estimated net cost of removing the night soil and house refuse, would be saved, and a great improvement effected in the sanitary condition of the district.

The Surveyor called the Medical Officer's attention in September to a special kind of self-acting tipper water closet, in some new houses which he considered unsatisfactory. A considerable number of these have been introduced into the district, and the Medical Officer, in conjunction with the Surveyor, inspected 55 in one street, and reported to the Highway Committee as to their condition, and that it was not desirable they should be allowed in new houses, as they were so liable to get out of order. The Highway Committee resolved to disallow them, and referred the condition of the existing ones to the sanitary department, where they have received attention.

New Byelaws.—I recommended, when the Public Health Acts Amendment Act was adopted by the Local Board on June 2nd, 1891, that it should avail itself of the powers it gave to make new byelaws, as to the structure of floors, hearths, staircases, the height of rooms, the paving of yards, the water supply of W.C.'s, and to prevent buildings from being altered so as to contravene byelaws existing at the time of construction. A Sub-Committee of the Highway Committee was appointed, whose meetings I attended, but no action was taken, and I again bring this matter to your notice.

Streets.—The condition of the streets has had the attention of the Health and Highway Committees, as to snow and to throwing slops, &c., into the streets, and handbills have been printed and circulated as to the law in the matter.

Water Supply.—I have little to add to previous reports concerning the water, all of which is supplied to this district by the City of Birmingham Water Department, except a few remaining surface wells. In 1893, when there was an exceptional prevalence of typhoid fever in this district, I spoke of the probability of its being due to one or both of two causes, the unusual heat and a possible contamination of the water supply.

I have already reported that both this year and last there has been comparatively little typhoid fever in Aston Manor. The supply of water has been constant and sufficient, the filtering arrangements have been attended to by the Water Committee, and the Medical Officer for Birmingham reported that he had made for it analyses of 157 samples derived from the various sources of supply, namely streams and deep wells, during 1894.

I have no reason to doubt that everything possible is being done to maintain the purity of the supply to this and other suburban districts within the area supplied by the Water Department. I cannot but note, however, its deterioration in quality and its increasing hardness, though I fear it is the best we can have until the new Welsh water for which we are already paying is brought hither.

I have examined samples of water from three wells in the district, and found two of them so polluted as to be injurious to health, and the owner has substituted tap water.

Food and Food Adulteration.—The Inspector reports having made 771 visits to butchers' shops and food and provision shops, but no seizures of unwholesome food or meat for sale in a diseased condition. He has also reported monthly to the Health Committee his action as their officer appointed to take samples of food and drugs and submit them to the Public Analyst. The total number of samples submitted by him to Dr. Bostock Hill, the Public Analyst for the County, is 221, and the results of the analyses are set forth in the summary of the Inspector's report.

Of the 142 samples of milk taken, 5 were found poor in quality, and 16 were certified as adulterated by the addition of water, or the abstraction of cream, equal to 11·2 per cent. of the samples, as compared with 5·2 per cent. last year. The sellers were cautioned by the Health Committee in 9 instances, and in 7 others prosecutions were authorised, and 5 convictions obtained.

Hockley Brook Improvement. This stream forms the boundary between Aston Manor and Birmingham from Hunter's Road, Handsworth, to its junction with the river Tame, a distance of about two miles, and traverses throughout its course a densely populated district. It forms the natural outlet for the surface and storm water of the populous valley through which it flows. I recollect when, during the time of storms, the lower portion of the district was always flooded, through the insufficiency of the brook course to take away the storm water, and it is essential to the proper action of the storm overflows of the present system of sewers that a free and rapid discharge should be provided.

The important work of widening, straightening, deepening, and partly covering the brook course, as far as regards the portion which forms the boundary between Birmingham and Aston Manor, has been going on for the last fifteen years, and has been executed in sections. The first section was carried out from the plans of Mr W. S. Till, Surveyor to the City, acting as Engineer to the Committee, but all the sections executed during the last ten years have been carried out from the plans and under the superintendence of Mr. W. A. Davies at that time your Surveyor, and who has acted as Engineer to the joint Committee.

The whole of this portion of the stream has now been dealt with; the last section having been completed in June of the present year, and it necessitated some very difficult work, including a length of tunnelling under the main line and sidings of the L. and N.W. Railway near Holborn Hill. I was present, with the members of this Council, when they made a formal inspection of the works in May, when the Chairman expressed his satisfaction at the able manner in which this important contribution to the permanent improvement of the health of the district and neighbourhood had been carried out. The total amount expended is upwards of £50,000, borne by the two authorities equally. There have been several heavy storms since its completion, but the capacity of the brook course has been ample for the discharge of the storm water without flooding.

Public School Accommodation.—The growing appreciation of the advantages of public school education, both elementary and secondary, manifested in Aston Manor during the last two or three years, and encouraged by free education, has an important sanitary aspect, as it renders existing accommodation liable to be overtaken, with consequent overcrowding, although the actual number of the school children in the district remains nearly

stationary. The congregation of children together in large schools favours a rapid diffusion of measles, and helps to spread scarlet fever, diphtheria, and other infectious diseases among the children, and this tendency becomes the more dangerous the more they are crowded together. The Aston School Board have resolved on providing additional accommodation for 500 higher-grade children; from a sanitary point of view this addition is advisable in the present crowded condition of the School Board's higher-grade school.

Public Mortuary —I stated last year that the Local Board of Aston Manor had decided in favour of constructing a public mortuary, and agreed to expend £100 with that object, its erection to be in the hands of the Warwickshire County Council, on a portion of the site occupied by the new Aston police courts, which is eminently suitable, as the police have chiefly to do with such a building. The mortuary was completed and brought into service in July this year, and I inspected it and reported to you that it was satisfactory, and meets a long-felt want in the district. Mr. Walker, the Superintendent of Police, informs me that 6 bodies have been deposited there since its erection.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population of Aston Manor is calculated from the careful annual enumeration of the number of houses taken annually at the end of the year by the attendance officers of the Aston School Board. In this enumeration they are distinguished into occupied and unoccupied, and, by multiplying the present number of occupied houses by the average number of persons in each at the last census, which was 4·9, a very close approximation is made to the actual population.

The estimated population at the end of this year, on this basis, is 75,264; and the estimated population of 1894, on the same basis, was 73,759, the mean being 74,512. This is the mean estimated population of the year upon which the following birth and death-rates are calculated. from the weekly returns supplied by Mr. Ingall, Registrar of Births and Deaths for the sub-district of Aston Manor.

Births.—The number of births registered during the present year is 2,465 viz., 1,242 males and 1,223 females. In 1894 there was a decrease of 163 on the number registered during 1893, but this year there is an increase of 194 upon that of 1894, and the birth-rate, which had fallen to the lowest point ever reached in Aston Manor, viz., 31·0 per 1,000 in 1894, has returned to the average rate, viz. 33·1.

I have frequently adverted to the difference between the present birth-rate and that which prevailed before 1881, when it averaged above 42 per 1,000, and to the effects of this reduction of ten births per annum in each thousand persons, in altering the age-constitution of the population of Aston Manor.

So far its effect has been to increase the proportion of persons between 10 and 45 years of age, which is the healthiest period of life, and thereby to favourably affect the local death-rate; when, in process of time, it increases the proportion above 45, this tendency to improve the death-rate will be corrected.

Deaths.—There have been 1,232 deaths registered in Aston Manor during 1895, viz 584 males and 648 females, as compared with 1,026 deaths during 1894, viz., 523 males and 503 females. This is an increase of 206, and counterbalances the decrease of 191 in 1894.

The general death-rate for the year is 16·5, which is 2·5 higher than last year, and 0·5 higher than the average of the last thirteen years.

As I have already mentioned, the chief cause of the present rise in the mortality of the district, is the great fatality from infantile diarrhoea and allied diseases, such as marasmus, gastro-enteritis, inanition, largely depending upon meteorological conditions. Another cause, also depending upon these conditions, is the great number of deaths from bronchial affections during the long cold winter.

In addition to the deaths registered in Aston Manor, there were 6 deaths of Aston Manor cases in the infectious hospitals, one of which is in Perry Barr Urban Sanitary District, and the other in Erdington Urban Sanitary District. There were also 45 deaths of persons who died in the workhouse in the latter district admitted from Aston Manor.

The various diseases which have caused the year's mortality, the number from each, at seven different periods of life, and the total from each during this year and the previous one, are tabulated on pages 26 and 27 of this report.

The following table gives the number of deaths at different periods of life during the last two years, and shows how very unfavourable this year has been to infant life :—

	Males.		Females.		Totals.	
	1894.	1895.	1894.	1895.	1894.	1895.
Under 1 year	175	243	135	228	310	471
From 1 to 5 years . . .	78	74	81	92	159	166
" 5 to 15 "	14	22	18	39	32	61
" 15 to 25 "	18	16	26	12	44	28
" 25 to 65 "	157	157	165	179	322	336
At 65 and upwards ...	81	72	78	98	159	170
	523	584	503	648	1,026	1,232

Infantile Death-rate.—The infantile death-rate, or proportion of deaths under a year to the number of infants born in the year is 19·1, which is 5·5 higher than last year, when it was 13·6, and 4·3 higher than the average of the previous thirteen years.

Zymotic Death-rate.—The number of deaths from the seven principal Zymotic diseases was 234, as compared with 157 last year, and the Zymotic death-rate was 3·1, as compared with 2·1 last year.

Uncertified Deaths.—There were 54 deaths registered this year which were not certified as to the cause of death by any medical man, as compared with 50 last year. These included 7 deaths of infants stated to have been accidentally suffocated in bed, 22 stated to have died in convulsion fits or convulsions. In these cases the cause of death was entered by the Registrar according to the best information he could obtain.

There were also 12 cases on which inquests were held, as compared with 24 in the previous year.

I am pleased to say that the policy of the late Local Board in sanitary matters has been continued and advanced by the present District Council.

These reports continue to exhibit an increase in the amount of sanitary work performed in the district, and ample proof is afforded that this meets with public approval, by the very small number of prosecutions which have been necessary. These reports also show how much is being done in establishing and maintaining those public institutions which are characteristic of first-class towns.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY MAY.

December 31st, 1895.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN ASTON MANOR. CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO
DISEASES AND AGES.

1895.	0-1 Year.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and Upw'ds	Total 1895	1894
I.—Specific Febrile, or Zymotic Diseases.									
MIASMATIC DISEASES.									
Smallpox	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles	2	15	1	—	—	—	—	18	53
Scarlet Fever	1	4	3	—	—	—	—	8	4
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	12	19	1	—	—	—	—	32	32
Diphtheria	—	13	18	—	1	—	—	32	4
Simple, Continued, or Ill-defined Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	6	6
Influenza	—	2	—	3	2	8	1	16	6
Membranous Croup	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3	6
Other Miasmatic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
DIARRHOEAL DISEASES.									
Simple Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea, Dysentery	113	16	2	—	1	1	4	137	32
ZOOGENOUS DISEASES.									
Cowpox and effects of Vaccination	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases (e.g., Hydrophobia)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VENEREAL DISEASES.									
Syphilis	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	1
Gonorrhoea, Stricture of Urethra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SEPTIC DISEASES.									
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3
Pyæmia, Septicæmia	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	1
Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Septicæmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
II.—Parasitic Diseases.									
Thrush and Vegetable Parasitic Diseases	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
Worms, Hydatids	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
III.—Dietetic Diseases.									
Want of Breast Milk, Starvation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Scurvy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chronic Alcoholism, Delirium Tremens	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1
IV.—Constitutional Diseases.									
Rheumatic Fever, Rheumatism of the Heart	—	—	1	4	2	—	—	4	1
Rheumatism	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Gout	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Rickets	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Cancer, Malignant Disease	—	—	—	—	7	20	7	34	40
Tubercular Meningitis, Hydrocephalus	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	11	11
Phthisis	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	7	13
Other forms of Tuberculosis, Scrofula	1	4	4	12	51	18	1	87	103
Anæmia, Chlorosis, &c.	—	3	3	1	3	1	—	12	2
Diabetes Mellitus	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Other Constitutional Diseases	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	4
V.—Developmental Diseases.									
Premature Birth	62	—	—	—	—	—	—	62	43
Atelectasis	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2
Congenital Malformations	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6
Old Age	—	—	—	—	—	2	45	47	31
VI.—Local Diseases.									
DISEASE OF NERVOUS SYSTEM.									
Inflammation of Brain or Membranes	9	13	4	—	2	—	—	28	23
Apoplexy, Softening of Brain, Paralysis	1	—	—	1	7	19	23	51	50
Insanity, Paralysis of the Insane	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Epilepsy	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	5	4
Convulsions, Eclampsia	53	10	1	1	—	—	—	65	37
Laryngismus Stridulus (Spasm of Glottis)	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
Disease of Spinal Cord, Paraplegia	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	4
Other Diseases of Nervous System	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	4
DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.									
Pericarditis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valvular Diseases of Heart	—	—	3	—	2	11	4	20	18
Syncope	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	14
Other Diseases of Heart	—	—	1	1	6	26	14	48	40
Aneurism	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	—
Embolism, Thrombosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Blood Vessels	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carried over	287	111	46	22	97	118	104	785	626

DEATHS REGISTERED IN ASTON MANOR. CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO
DISEASES AND AGES.—*Continued.*

1895.	0-1 Year.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and Upw'ds	Total	
								1895	1894
Brought over	287	111	46	22	97	118	104	785	626
DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.									
Laryngitis	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3	1
Croup	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	5
Emphysema, Asthma	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4
Bronchitis	38	23	1	—	11	25	41	140	134
Pneumonia	19	18	4	3	8	11	3	64	93
Pleurisy	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	5	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ..	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	4	6
DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.									
Dentition	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Sore Throat, Quinsy, Tonsilitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diseases of Stomach	3	—	—	—	1	3	2	9	5
Enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	7	4	—	—	—	2	1	14	9
Obstructive Diseases of Intestines	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	6	3
Peritonitis	1	—	2	—	3	1	—	7	7
Ascites	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	6	8
Jaundice, and other Diseases of Liver ..	2	—	—	1	1	3	—	7	6
Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM.									
Nephritis	1	—	—	—	3	2	2	8	6
Bright's Disease, Albuminuria	—	—	1	—	4	6	4	15	12
Disease of Bladder, or of Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3
Other Diseases of the Urinary System	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	1
DISEASES OF REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM.									
Of Male Organs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Of Female Organs	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	5	2
Abortion, Miscarriage	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—
Puerperal Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Placenta Prævia, Flooding	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	4
Other Accidents of Child-Birth	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2
DISEASES OF BONES AND JOINTS.									
Caries, Necrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Arthritis, Ostitis, Periostitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Other Diseases of Bones and Joints	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
DISEASES OF INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM.									
Carbuncle, Phlegmon, Cellulitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Other Diseases of Integumentary System ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
VII.—Deaths from Violence.									
ACCIDENT OR NEGLIGENCE.									
Fractures and Contusions	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—
Gunshot Wounds	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cut, Stab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burn, Scald	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Poison	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Drowning	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	2
Suffocation	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	8
Otherwise	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7
HOMICIDE.									
Manslaughter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Murder	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
SUICIDE.									
Gunshot Wounds	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cut, Stab	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Poison	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Drowning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hanging	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Otherwise	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
VIII.—Deaths from Ill-defined and not Specified Causes.									
Dropsy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Debility, Atrophy, Inanition	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	57	26
Marasmus	43	7	—	—	—	—	—	50	24
Mortification	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	1
Tumour	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abscess	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Hæmorrhage	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Sudden Death (cause not ascertained) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other not Specified or Ill-defined Causes ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	2
"Natural Causes"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	471	166	61	28	144	192	170	1232	1026

ASTON MANOR.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT
DURING THE YEAR 1895.*Notices Served, and Nuisances, &c., abated during the past Twelve Months.*

Nature of Nuisances.	Notices left on Books Dec. 31st, 1894.	Notices served during 1895.	Notices abated during 1895.	Notices remaining on Books Dec. 31st, 1895.	Houses in connection with Notices served.
Drains requiring cleansing, trapping, &c.	7	471	468	10	1,765
Drains requiring disconnection between house and sewer ...	—	28	27	1	72
Insufficient Drainage ...	1	29	30	—	76
Accumulation of manure ...	1	42	43	—	45
Overcrowded houses and workshops	—	7	7	—	7
Filthy houses ...	5	158	159	4	581
„ privies ...	3	93	93	3	8
„ workshops and bakehouses	—	60	60	—	64
„ slaughterhouses and cowsheds	—	—	—	—	—
„ milkshops ...	—	3	3	—	3
Defective or want of yard paving...	1	11	12	—	67
Dilapidated buildings	5	386	384	7	1,296
Defective eaves and down spouting	5	198	192	11	518
Middens, wet and offensive to alter	7	126	129	4	373
Privies and middens requiring con- version into W.C.'s and dry ashpits	—	3	3	—	5
Insufficient privy accommodation	—	5	5	—	5
Want of urinals ...	—	6	6	—	27
Animals kept as a nuisance ...	—	67	67	—	67
Water in cellars ...	—	12	12	—	21
Houses and W.C.'s without water supply	—	17	17	—	79
Polluted wells ...	—	1	1	—	3
Houses to cleanse after infectious disease	3	316	297	22	316
TOTAL	38	2,039	2,015	62	5,398

164 water-closets have been substituted for privies and middens requiring alteration.

Houses disinfected by Inspector ...	388
Lots of bedding and clothing disinfected ...	352
Notices sent to Schools of cases of infectious diseases	602
Visit of Inspector to slaughterhouses	671
„ „ to butchers' and provision shops	771
„ „ to workshops and bakehouses	423
Samples of water taken to Medical Officer	4
Cases reported on to Medical Officer	731

Observations on chimneys	134
Chimneys emitting black smoke over twelve minutes in hour	7
Number of milk dealers on the Register	376
" cowsheds " " 	10
Licenses issued for hackney carriages	62
" " drivers of hackney carriages	93
" " sale of petroleum	12

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1875-9.

During the twelve months ending Dec. 31st, 1895, 221 samples have been taken for the purpose of analysis, under the provisions of the above Acts, viz.:

Nature of Articles.	Number of Samples taken.	Genuine.	Adulterated.	Cream Abstracted.	Poor in Quality.	Cautioned by the Committee.	Prosecutions.	Dismissed.	Fines.			Costs.		
									£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Milk	142	121	5	11	5	9	7	2	5	5	0	2	16	6
Butter	25	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lard	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee.....	23	22	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mustard....	6	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pepper.....	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oatmeal....	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrowroot..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whiskey ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	221	198	7	11	5	11	7	2	5	5	0	2	16	6

EXTENT OF ADULTERATION DURING 1895.

MILK :—

5 Samples were poor in quality.	
1 Sample was adulterated with 5% of added water.	
1 " " " 8% " "	
1 " " " 10% " "	
1 " " " 15% " "	
1 " " " 27% " "	
6 Samples were deficient of 15% of cream.	
1 Sample was " 25% "	
1 " " 29% "	
2 Samples were " 40% "	
1 Sample was " 50% "	

COFFEE :—

1 Sample was adulterated with 80% of chicory.

MUSTARD :—

1 Sample was adulterated with 5% of added water.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

No. of Summonses.	Nature of Offence.	Remarks.
1	Filthy and dilapidated houses and washhouses.	Ordered to do the work in 14 days.
1	Non-compliance with Justices' Order.	Fined 10/- and costs.
1	Filthy house.	Dismissed.
1	Defective and filthy houses.	Ordered to do the work in 7 days with costs.

BENJAMIN BOLT, INSPECTOR.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE NIGHT-SOIL DEPARTMENT AND OF DISINFECTION DURING 1895
AND PREVIOUS ELEVEN YEARS.

Year.	DAY WORK. Dry Ashpits, Ash Tubs and Refuse Tubs				NIGHT WORK. Ashpits and Privies.				Gross Amount of Sales.	Disinfection of Bedding.	
										No. of Lots of Bedding, &c., disinfected.	No of Articles disinfected.
	No. of emptyings of dry Ashpits.	No. of Loads removed from dry Ashpits.	No. of emptyings of Ash Tubs and Refuse Tubs.	No. of Loads removed from Ash and Refuse Tubs	No. of Middens emptied.	No. of Cart Loads removed.	Average No. of Loads from each.	Total No. of Loads removed.			
1895	5,531	5,670	6,472	317	10,940	14,704	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	20,691*	£310	532	8,323
1894	4,573	4,080	6,072	289	10,948	14,511	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	18,880	£385	497	9,317
1893	4,438	3,965	5,050	295	11,280	14,868	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	19,128	£396	539	8,912
1892	4,283	4,372	5,686	343	10,698	16,426	1 $\frac{1}{3}$	21,141	£445	471	7,001
1891	2,791	3,516	4,384	347	10,428	17,125	1 $\frac{2}{3}$	21,583	£482	381	7,425
1890	2,219	3,128	3,742	316	10,004	16,708	1 $\frac{2}{3}$	21,202	£528	478	8,721
1889	1,185	1,766	2,880	288	10,357	17,120	1 $\frac{2}{3}$	19,174	£520	248	5,063
1888	621	991	2,398	244	9,897	16,878	1 $\frac{2}{3}$	18,113	£517	129	2,392
1887	385	629	2,756	254	9,894	16,470	1 $\frac{2}{3}$	17,363	£612	122	2,191
1886	166	329	2,887	"	9,535	16,247	1 $\frac{2}{3}$	16,576	£638	68	1,315
1885	"	"	3,016	"	8,869	16,233	1 $\frac{1}{3}$	16,233	£654	76	1,702
1884	"	"	3,104	"	8,775	16,812	2	16,812	£661	140	3,893

* Total Tonnage, 23,594 tons.

Total consumed in Destructor, 12,760 tons.

A. TREADAWAY, Superintendent.

1860

BIRMINGHAM :

BUCKER BROTHERS, PRINTERS, HIGH STREET.

1860

